

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated and substantially purified DNA sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:3, wherein SEQ ID NO:3 containing includes at least one variation selected from the group consisting of:

a T at nucleotide base number 4121 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 4621 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a T at nucleotide base number 4970 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 11056 of SEQ ID NO:3; and

a T at nucleotide base number 12145 of SEQ ID NO:3,

or contiguous portions thereof a fragment of SEQ ID NO:3, wherein said fragment includes at least one of said variations and is at least 20 nucleotides in length.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) A hybridization probe comprising the DNA sequence of claim 1 and a detectable label.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) ~~An expression system~~ A host cell comprising a vector, wherein said vector further comprises a DNA sequence that corresponds to SEQ ID NO: 3, ~~wherein said expression system comprises a recombinant host cell transformed or transfected with said DNA sequence.~~

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) The ~~expression system~~ host cell of claim 18, wherein said DNA sequence includes one or more of the variations selected from the group consisting of:

a T at nucleotide base number 4121 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 4621 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a T at nucleotide base number 4970 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 11056 of SEQ ID NO:3; and

a T at nucleotide base number 12145 of SEQ ID NO:3,

~~or contiguous portions thereof~~ a fragment of said DNA sequence that includes one or more of said variations and is at least 20 nucleotides in length.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Currently amended) A DNA sequence that is one hundred percent complementary to the DNA sequence of Claim 1.